gravity of the offences committed. The relevant recommendations have been effective from 29.1.2000.

Increasing seats in IT-related courses in Karnataka

1481. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested to raise the number of Engineering seats in IT-related courses;

(b) if so, whether AICTE has permitted to increase the number of Engineering seats in IT-related subjects in Karnataka during 2000-2001;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government would enhance the IT-related courses in Engineering colleges in Karnataka to encourage students to take up IT-related courses?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Karnataka has requested the All India Council for Technical Education to increase in intake number of seats in Information Technology related courses.

(b) AICTE, in view of such requests for 2000-2001 from other states as well, has issued advertisements asking engineering colleges having IT-related courses to apply for increase in intake of students within 31.7.2000. AICTE has also issued advertisements asking all engineering colleges having good infrastructure and not having IT-related courses to apply for starting new IT-related courses within 5.8.2000 AICTE will process all these cases on fast track and convey its decision within October, 2000.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.